

Message Text

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43

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 SS-15 SCCT-01 SY-05 USSS-00 EB-07

FAA-00 DOTE-00 SCA-01 IO-13 SAM-01 JUSE-00 SSO-00

NSCE-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 EURE-00

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O R 171330Z AUG 76

FM AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 7857

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

AMCONSUL IZMIR

AMCONSUL ADANA

C O N F I D E N T I A L ISTANBUL 3183

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS, ASEC, TU

SUBJECT CHARGING OF ISTANBUL AIRPORT TERRORISTS

REF (A) STATE 203862 (B) ANKARA 6273

1. NEWSPAPERS REPORT AUGUST 17 THAT TERRORISTS WERE BROUGHT BEFORE FIRST PEACE PENALTY COURT ON AUGUST 16 (SESSION WAS CLOSED TO PUBLIC) AND SUBSEQUENTLY SENT TO SALMACILAR PRISON. PUBLIC PROSECUTOR REPORTEDLY SAID THAT TERRORISTS WERE TAKEN BEFORE COURT WITH SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE BUT ADDED THAT INVESTIGATION NOT YET COMPLETED. ACCORDING TO SAME REPORTS TERRORISTS WILL BE TAKEN SOME TIME NEXT WEEK TO HEAVY PENALTY COURT BECAUSE OF NATURE OF CRIMES THEY COMMITTED

2. PUBLIC PROSECUTOR IN CONVERSATION WITH CONGEN EMPLOYEE SAID THAT FIRST STEP HAD BEEN ACCOMPLISHED WITH PRESENTATION OF SUFFICIENT EVIDENCE TO WARRANT ARREST AND IMPRISONMENT OF
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TWO TERRORISTS PRIOR TO PLACING FORMAL CHARGES AGAINST

THEM. BECAUSE HIS JURISDICTION DOES NOT HAVE A COURT THAT CAN TRY CAPITAL CASES, SUCH AS KILLINGS, FILE ONCE COMPLETED, WILL BE TRANSFERRED TO ISTANBUL HEAVY PENALTY COURT.

3. CONGENOFFS WERE INFORMED BY A SENIOR ISTANBUL POLICE OFFICIAL ON AUGUST 17 THAT IT HAS NOT YET BEEN DETERMINED WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE TWO TERRORISTS, I.E., WHETHER THEY WILL BE TURNED OVER TO ANOTHER COUNTRY OR PROSECUTED UNDER TURKISH LAW. WE HAVE NO WAY OF EVALUATING THIS STATEMENT, BUT NOTE THAT CASE IS NOW OUT OF POLICE HANDS AND IN JURISDICTION OF TURKISH COURT SYSTEM. BATJER

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Margaret P. Grafeld
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